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(VIA E-MAIL AND U.S. MAIL)  
October 24, 2013

THOMAS V. WHITE  
JOHN W. NELLEY, JR.  
THOMAS C. SCOTT  
PETER J. STRIANSE  
HUGH W. ENTREKIN  
JOHN P. WILLIAMS \*  
ROBERT L. DELANEY  
GEORGE A. DEAN  
LESA HARTLEY SKONEY  
JOSEPH P. RUSNAK  
TODD E. PANTHER \*  
DAVID M. BULLOCK \*  
SHAWN R. HENRY  
T. CHAD WHITE  
STEPHEN A. LUND

Mr. Jon D. Ross  
Neal & Harwell  
150 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Suite 2000  
Nashville, TN 37219-2498

Re: WTVF News Channel 5 Network, LLC

Dear Jon:

It appears Phil Williams is planning a news story about Gloria Dumas. It appears his news story relates to her absences from the bench this year due to legitimate illness and treatment for her illness.

Mr. Williams called Judge Dumas' office today and asked to speak with her. She could not speak to him because she has lost her voice. The loss of voice is caused by her continuing health problems.

Judge Dumas is willing to respond to any questions Mr. Williams has through counsel. Her counsel's communication will be with you, Ron Harris or any other lawyer your firm designates to work on this matter.

It appears Mr. Williams is aware Judge John Brown sits and sat specially for Judge Dumas when she was absent due to illness and medical treatment. Apparently a question has arisen about how Judge Brown was compensated.

As I understand it the Metropolitan Government does not ordinarily compensate Special Judges. Judge Dumas however has arranged for Judge Brown to receive on the occasions he sits or sat specially for her, the salary Judge Dumas was entitled to receive.

In other words, any news story Judge Dumas has received her salary on the occasions when Judge Brown sits for her is not true or correct. We do not believe Judge Dumas' absence from the bench due to legitimate illness is a newsworthy matter especially since she has arranged for her own compensation to be paid to Judge Brown. There has been no double compensation.

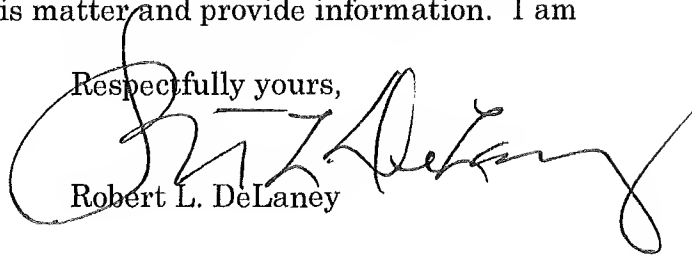
TUNE, ENTREKIN & WHITE, P.C.

Jon D. Ross  
October 24, 2013  
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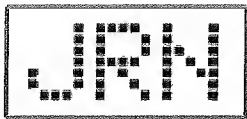
I am available to discuss this matter and provide information. I am

Respectfully yours,

Robert L. DeLaney

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. DeLaney", written over the printed name.

RLD/mjr  
cc: Gloria Dumas (VIA E-MAIL)



## Request for Comment

**Phil Williams** <pwilliams@jrn.com>

Fri, Oct 25, 2013 at 6:00 PM

Reply-To: pwilliams@newschannel5.com

To: gloriadumas@jis.nashville.org

Judge Dumas,

We respectfully decline your attorney's suggestion that we should employ legal counsel to ask questions of you as an elected official.

Here are our questions:

- 1) Can you please provide us with a detailed statement regarding your numerous absences during this calendar year? If it is due to illness, can you provide the public with whatever description of the illness with which you may feel comfortable?
- 2) Given the numerous absences, do you believe that you are able to fulfill the duties of your office? Can you please provide us with a detailed statement on that question?
- 3) Have you notified the Administrative Office of the Courts or any other supervising entity of your illness and/or disability? Can you please provide us with a detailed statement regarding any such conversations and any advice that may have been provided to you?
- 4) Has the arrangement with Judge Brown been approved by the chief justice of the Supreme Court or any similar entity? If so, can you please provide such approval?

Neal & Harwell does not represent NewsChannel 5 on this inquiry. I look forward to any response that you or your attorney may wish to send directly to me.

Respectfully,

Phil Williams

--  
**Phil Williams**  
**Chief Investigative Reporter**  
**WTVF-TV, NewsChannel 5**  
**474 James Robertson Pkwy**  
**Nashville TN 37219**  
**Voice: (615) 248-5390**  
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\* Rule 31 Listed General Civil Mediator

(VIA E-MAIL AND U.S. MAIL)  
October 30, 2013

Mr. Jon D. Ross  
Neal & Harwell  
150 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Suite 2000  
Nashville, TN 37219-2498

Re: WTVF News Channel 5 Network, LLC

Dear Jon:

I haven't heard from you regarding the letter I sent you on October 24, 2013. I wanted to follow-up however and provide some additional information and context.

As I told you in my first letter Judge Dumas arranged for the Metropolitan Government to compensate Judge Brown with money allocated for her salary, that is when he sat for her. Judge Dumas had no obligation to do this of course. She just believed it was the right thing to do.

I expect there are many instances of State judges being temporarily ill or disabled for extended periods who continue to receive full salary and benefits even though someone sits specially for them. In fact, as I am sure you know, State law contemplates such circumstances.

Enclosed is a breakdown through October 11, 2013 showing the portions of Judge Dumas' salary which she has received and which Judge Brown has received. I am informed by individuals familiar with the facts that Judge Brown covered 95% to 98% of Judge Dumas' absences attributable to her legitimate illness.

In some instances where she expected to be able to work, became ill, could not work and Judge Brown was unavailable her dockets were covered by regular General Sessions Judges in Davidson County. In a very few circumstances when neither Judge Brown was available nor regular General Sessions Judges, a private lawyer covered but received no compensation.

With another election for an eight (8) year term approaching Judge Dumas is facing another campaign. She will only run if her health has sufficiently improved

**TUNE, ENTREKIN & WHITE, P.C.**

Jon D. Ross  
October 30, 2013  
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so that she can actively campaign and actively serve for eight (8) more years as Judge.

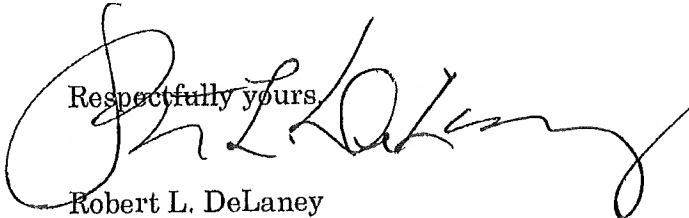
Again, I am available to discuss any of this. Given the circumstances of Judge Dumas' legitimate illness, and her efforts to be certain a qualified retired judge sat in her place who was compensated with her own money, I respectfully submit the ostensibly proposed news story is not a newsworthy one.

Come November 7, 2013, candidates for judicial offices in Tennessee may lawfully start raising money for campaigns next year. Judge Dumas' illness and absence from the bench have been ongoing for an extended period of time. No one has attempted to make a secret of her ill health and absence from the bench. So, respectfully the timing of WTVF, News Channel 5's "investigation" and reporting appears to some as suspect, malicious and purely designed to effect Judge Dumas' electoral circumstances adversely.

If Mr. Williams does not believe Judge Dumas should continue in office, he should vote against her and encourage his friends to do so. In my opinion, he has a tremendous obligation, given his position, to be responsible in his reporting and lawful in his conduct. A news story about Judge Dumas' legitimate ill health does not meet the standard of responsibility, I have just suggested. Best regards

I am

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. L. DeLaney", written over the typed name.

Robert L. DeLaney

RLD/gmka

cc: Gloria Dumas (VIA E-MAIL)

RS807009

\* Metro Gov't of Nashville

9:25:30

METRO0002

10/24/2013 1 of

Department Payroll Information  
Department Payroll Detail Info by Employ

Pay Periods Ending January 18, 2013 Through October 11, 2013

Employee Name	Home Business Unit	Class #	Class	Annual Salary	Pay Per Date	Pay Type Description	Gross Pay
BROWN JR, JOHN P.	GSC Judges	9020	Seasonal/Part-time/Temporary		4/12/2013	Regular	3033.82
BROWN JR, JOHN P.	GSC Judges	9020	Seasonal/Part-time/Temporary		4/26/2013	Regular	3033.82
BROWN JR, JOHN P.	GSC Judges	9020	Seasonal/Part-time/Temporary		5/10/2013	Regular	3033.82
BROWN JR, JOHN P.	GSC Judges	9020	Seasonal/Part-time/Temporary		5/24/2013	Regular	3033.82
BROWN JR, JOHN P.	GSC Judges	9020	Seasonal/Part-time/Temporary		6/7/2013	Regular	3033.82
BROWN JR, JOHN P.	GSC Judges	9020	Seasonal/Part-time/Temporary		6/21/2013	Regular	3033.81
BROWN JR, JOHN P.	GSC Judges	9020	Seasonal/Part-time/Temporary		7/5/2013	Regular	0
BROWN JR, JOHN P.	GSC Judges	9020	Seasonal/Part-time/Temporary		7/19/2013	Regular	0
BROWN JR, JOHN P.	GSC Judges	9020	Seasonal/Part-time/Temporary		8/2/2013	Regular	3097.58
BROWN JR, JOHN P.	GSC Judges	9020	Seasonal/Part-time/Temporary		8/16/2013	Regular	3097.58
BROWN JR, JOHN P.	GSC Judges	9020	Seasonal/Part-time/Temporary		8/30/2013	Regular	3097.58
BROWN JR, JOHN P.	GSC Judges	9020	Seasonal/Part-time/Temporary		9/13/2013	Regular	3097.58
BROWN JR, JOHN P.	GSC Judges	9020	Seasonal/Part-time/Temporary		9/27/2013	Regular	3097.58
BROWN JR, JOHN P.	GSC Judges	9020	Seasonal/Part-time/Temporary		10/11/2013	Regular	3097.58
BROWN JR, JOHN P.	GSC Judges				Calendar YTD Total		36788.39

DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	1/18/2013	Regular	6223.38
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	2/1/2013	Regular	6223.38
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	2/15/2013	Regular	6223.38
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	3/1/2013	Regular	6223.38
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	3/15/2013	Regular	6223.38
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	3/29/2013	Regular	1867.01
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	4/12/2013	Regular	
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	4/26/2013	Regular	
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	5/10/2013	Regular	
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	5/24/2013	Regular	
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	6/7/2013	Regular	3189.56
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	6/21/2013	Regular	3189.56
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	7/5/2013	Regular	6223.36
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	7/19/2013	Regular	6334
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	8/2/2013	Regular	3177
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	8/16/2013	Regular	3177
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	8/30/2013	Regular	3177
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	9/13/2013	Regular	3177
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	9/27/2013	Regular	3177
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	10/11/2013	Regular	3177
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	7/5/2013	Reg Pay Adj	65.31
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	6/7/2013	Retro Pay	17114.61
DUMAS, GLORIA	GSC Judges	2233	General Session Judge	165204	3/29/2013	FMLA-Unpaid	0